

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 119

By Trail

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Anna E. Wade Lilly, a distinguished teacher.

WHEREAS, her many friends, family, students and former students and the members of this body were deeply saddened to learn of the death of longtime La Vergne High School teacher, Anna E. Wade Lilly; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lilly was born on April 10, 1944 in the Shiloh Community of Rutherford County, the daughter of the late Ernest Wade, a minister, and Alma P. Wade; and

WHEREAS, at an early age, she united with the Walnut Grove Missionary Baptist Church and thereafter her most important priority was to serve God and her community faithfully; and

WHEREAS, an excellent student, Mrs. Lilly graduated from Holloway High School, received her Bachelor of Science degree from Tennessee State University in 1966, her Masters degree from Middle Tennessee State University in 1978 and her Ed.S. degree at MTSU and

WHEREAS, her professional career as a schoolteacher allowed her the opportunity to teach in various areas throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, she had spent more than 25 years teaching in the Rutherford County School System and had been a mathematics teacher at La Vergne High School since its opening nearly 13 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lilly, who was always willing to help a student in need, was respected by faculty, parents and students alike, all of whom admired her strong work ethic, knowledge and competence as an educator; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lilly was very active in extracurricular groups, and was in charge of arranging the school prom each year; and

WHEREAS, in paying tribute to Mrs. Lilly, La Vergne High School Principal, Jan Stauffer, said: "She was a tremendous lady. She did an excellent job of teaching and the kids really, really, liked her. She was one of those faculty members that got along well and she will really be missed. She will be a hard person to replace but we will not soon forget her"; and

WHEREAS, Sister Lilly was an exemplary member of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, where she evinced her strong and abiding faith through several ministries; and

WHEREAS, truly a willing vessel that God used, she founded the "Women of Faith" ministry and had recently started the "Bus Mission" ministry; and

WHEREAS, in the finest traditions of our state, Anna Lilly, a pillar of her community, generously volunteered her leadership, time, energy and expertise to help various civic groups; and

WHEREAS, she was a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Delta Sorority and a charter member of the Rutherford County Alumnae Chapter, serving in all capacities, and she was a valued advisor to the Iota Tau Chapter at Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lilly was a political activist and was proud of her membership in the Rutherford County Democratic Women; and

WHEREAS, her loving spirit motivated, inspired, and encouraged many individuals and she was known for her love for people. Her bubbling spirit lit up a room and her beautiful smiles

radiated all hearts. She loved to love, always looking for opportunities to bestow compliments upon others; and

WHEREAS, her hobbies included traveling, doll collecting, working crossword puzzles, reading, and reaching out to those in need; and

WHEREAS, her most enjoyable moments were spending time with her loving family, husband Milton M. Lilly Jr., her son, Christopher A. Lilly, her daughter, Lynesa Benson and her husband, Paul; four children through marriage: Michelle Lilly, Marcia Lilly, Marva Lilly, and Milton M. Lilly III; and her grandchildren, Jasmine, Jessica, Stephen, Christopher, Jazmyne, Mia, Pierrecia, Valanna, Shawn, Tony, Willie, Devaungh, Marcheale, Marcus, Tylena, and Daomontex. and

WHEREAS, she is also survived by several family members who cherish many fond memories of her: her mother, Alma F. Wade; eight sisters and brothers, Ernest (Lorene) Wade, Pearlle (James) Martin, Marlene Ekeh, Gerald R. Wade, Goldy (Mary) Wade, Valerie (Pierre) Lyons, Renee' (Leo) Martin, Rodney (Monica) Martin; brother-in-law, James Hampton; and sisters-in-law, Ann Roberson and Earleen Jackson; aunts, Mrs. Artie Woods, Mrs. Lorene Pearcy, Mrs. Frances (Samuel) Watkins, Mrs. Delphia McKnight and Mrs. Annie Phillips; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Her loving god-children were Tonya Kennedy, Valanna Lyons and Da' Shonea Patton; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to celebrate the bountiful life and many accomplishments of Anna E. Wade Lilly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Anna E. Wade Lilly and express our deepest condolences to her family and friends, as we reflect fondly upon her indelible legacy as an educator and public servant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.